In the Specification:

Please amend the specification as shown:

Page 1, after the Title, line 5 please insert the following:

SEQUENCE LISTING

The instant application contains a Sequence Listing which has been submitted via EFS-Web and is hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety. Said ASCII copy, created on December 30, 2009, is named 65792463.txt, and is 96,132 bytes in size.

Please delete the paragraphs on page 106, line 35 to page 108, line 2 and replace them with the following paragraphs:

In the recombinant SEMA4B protein, a vector was prepared to express a FLAG-tagged or 6xHis-tagged **(SEQ ID NO: 39)** protein at the extracellular domain of SEMA4B and its C terminus and the protein expression system was constructed using BAC-TO-BAC Baculovirus Expression System (Invitrogen). That is, in the case of FLAG-tagged protein, there were employed primer (SEQ ID NO: 36) added with EcoR I restriction enzyme site at the N terminus and primer (SEQ ID NO: 37), which was to add FLAG-tag, termination codon and HindIII restriction enzyme site at the C terminus. In the case of 6xHis-tagged **(SEQ ID NO: 39)** protein, there were employed primer (SEQ ID NO: 36) added with EcoR I restriction enzyme site at the N terminus and primer (SEQ ID NO: 38), which was to add 6xHis-tag **(SEQ ID NO: 39)**, termination codon and HindIII restriction enzyme site at the C terminus. Using each primer pair and using as a template pCMV-14-SEMA4B described in REFERENCE EXAMPLE 6, PCR was carried out to acquire cDNA fragment (2151 bp) encoding the SEMA4B extracellular domain. PCR was carried out by repeating 30 cycles set to include 94°C for 30 seconds, 60°C for 30 seconds, 72°C for 3 minutes. The PCR products were separated by agarose gel electrophoresis, recovered using QIAquick Gel Extraction Kit (QIAGEN) and then cloned to pCR2.1-TOPO (Invitrogen) so that pCR2.1/SEMA4B-FLAG and pCR2.1/SEMA4B-His were acquired. After confirmation of the base sequences, pCR2.1/SEMA4B-FLAG and pCR2.1/SEMA4B-His were simultaneously digested with EcoR I (Takara Bio) and Hind III (Takara Bio), respectively, followed by agarose gel electrophoresis. The DNA digestion fragments were then recovered using QIAquick Gel Extraction Kit. pFASTBAC1 (Invitrogen) was similarly treated to recover

the DNA digestion fragments, which were subjected to ligation using Ligation High (Toyobo) to prepare the vector pFB/SEMA-FLAG with FLAG-tag at its C terminus or the vector pFB/SEMA-His with 6xHis-tag **(SEQ ID NO: 39)** at its C terminus. Next, recombinant Bacmid DNA was prepared in accordance with the protocol attached to BAC-TO-BAC Baculovirus Expression System to acquire recombinant baculovirus.

The recombinant SEMA4B protein was expressed by infecting 1/100 (v/v) of the recombinant virus with the Sf+ cell line (Nosan Corporation). After infection, the cells were incubated in the serum-free medium Sf-900 II SFM by shake culture at 27°C and 100 rpm for 3 days to recover the supernatant containing the recombinant protein. The protein was separated and purified using ANTI-FLAG M2 Affinity Gel (Sigma) for the culture supernatant containing the FLAG-tagged protein and using Ni-NTA Superflow (QIAGEN) for the culture supernatant containing the 6xHis-tagged **(SEQ ID NO: 39)** protein and further purified on Superdex 200pg (Amersham-Bioscience). Recombinant SEMA4B-FLAG and SEMA4B-His were thus acquired.